

**Claims**

We claim:

- 5           1.           A method for monitoring at least one quantity in a Perl-software package containing a plurality of quantities comprising the steps of:
- selecting at least one of said quantities;
- identifying each reference to said selected at least one quantity;
- including an operation to record said selected quantity at selected ones of
- 10           said references to said quantity; and
- creating a second software package from said first software package containing said included operations.
2.           The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of selecting at least one of said quantities further comprises:
- 15                   viewing said plurality of quantities; and
- selecting at least one of said quantities.
3.           The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said quantities are selected from the group consisting of: scalar, constant, variable, vector, array, hash, function.
4.           The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said operation further comprises the
- 20           steps of:
- receiving said selected at least one quantity; and
- recording said at least one quantity when said quantity is referenced.
5.           The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said selected references are identified from the group consisting of: line ranges, variables, reference condition.

6. The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the step of storing further comprises the step of:

recording said quantity when said quantity is altered.

7. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

printing the recorded references of said quantities.

8. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said operation is operable to determine a time difference between selected quantities.

9. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said operation is selected from the group consisting of: eval \_d, \_k, \_t.

10. A system for monitoring at least one quantity in a Perl-software package containing a plurality of quantities comprising:

a processor in communication with a memory, said processor operable to execute code for:

selecting at least one of said quantities;

identifying each reference to said selected at least one quantity;

including an operation to record said selected quantity at selected ones of said references to said quantity; and

creating a second software package from said first software package containing said included operations.

11. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein for selecting at least one of said quantities said processor is further operable to execute code for :

viewing said plurality of quantities; and

selecting at least one of said quantities.

12. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said quantities are selected from the group consisting of: scalar, constant, variable, vector, array, function.

13. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said processor is further operable to execute code for:

5 receiving said selected at least one quantity; and

recording said at least one quantity when said quantity is referenced.

14. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said selected references are identified from the group consisting of: line ranges, variables, reference conditions.

15. The system as recited in claim 14, wherein said processor is further operable to execute code for:

10 recording said quantity when said quantity is altered.

16. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said processor is further operable to execute code for:

printing the recorded values of said quantities.

15 17. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said code is stored in said memory.

18. The system as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

a device for receiving information from and transmitting information to said processor.

19. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said processor is further operable to execute for:

20 determining a time difference between selected quantities.

20. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said operation is selected from the group consisting of: eval \_d, \_k, \_t.